

Application Serial No. 09/938,072  
Amendment dated May 3, 2004  
Reply to Office Action dated February 2, 2004

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 4 with the following amended paragraph:

A minimization of the influence of the scattering capacities can be produced by keeping low the thermal capacities belonging to the scattering capacities or [suppresses] suppressing the coupling of the scattering capacities to the infrared radiation to the highest possible extent. This can be achieved in such a way that the emissivity of the furnace walls is kept as small as possible, i.e. they are provided with a strongly reflective arrangement.